

**Board of Public Education -- 2-15-1508, Montana Code
Annotated**

The board consists of seven members who serve seven-year terms. Statute requires a geographic and political party balance.

John Edwards, PO Box 20039, Billings MT 59104 (Member)

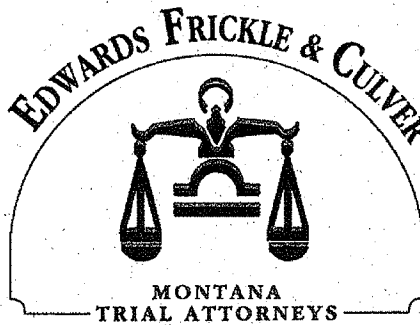
Contact Phone(s): 406-265-8155,

Appointment date: 4/9/2009; Term ends: February 1, 2016

Qualification: District 2 (Democrat)

Edwards received a bachelor of arts in communications from the University of Montana, and completed his law degree from UM in 2008. He practices law with the Edwards Law Firm in Billings. While at UM, he participated in intercollegiate athletics, and was in two football I-AA national title games. Edwards and his father and brother share other family businesses, including Edwards Jet Center, and real estate and ranching concerns.

A. CLIFFORD EDWARDS
ROGER W. FRICKLE
TRIEL D. CULVER
PHILIP MCGRADY *
A. CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS
JACKIE S. SHIELDS **
JOHN W. EDWARDS
* ADMITTED IN ALASKA AND MONTANA
** ADMITTED IN WYOMING AND MONTANA



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April 15, 2009

Chairman, Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee
ATTN: Senator Rick Liable
State Capital Building, Room 303
Helena, MT 59620-1706

Re: Board of Public Education Nomination

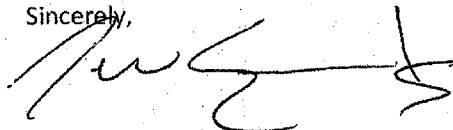
Dear Senator Liable:

Mr. Casey Barrs has requested I write to the Senate Education Committee regarding my recent appointment. The subjects Mr. Barrs requested I comment on are as follows; "what your role would be on the board, how you would approach that role and what important things you would bring to the board."

I view my role on this board as being an advocate for the public education system. I have been publicly educated in Montana from start to finish and believe in the system very strongly. But, please understand, I will first view my role as learning and understanding the inner workings of a board I am unfamiliar with. When I am more knowledgeable about the work of the board I will then weigh what I am presented with and make my judgments accordingly. My decisions and judgments will be based on the goal of providing Montana youth the best public education possible within the budget constraints as our economy dictates.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity; I hope to serve the board admirably and affectively.

Sincerely,



John W. Edwards